Chair - mode[illegible]

Drawer 29a

Furniture

71.2009.085.04474

Curios and Relics

Furniture

Chairs

Made by Lincoln

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the

Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

71.2009 085.04474

June 5, 1967

Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry, Director
The Lincoln National Life Foundation

Dear Sir:

My sister, Mrs Howard Rush, mentioned that she had written you about the Lincoln chair.

I had written to other Museums and they were anxious to have the chair but they were open only occasionally to school children and my sister was not satisfied with that arrangement. I was of the opinion that the chair should remain near it's original home but will abide by her decision.

As you probably know, Lincoln spent his first winter, 1830, in Illinois near Decatur. It was a very cold winter and while recovering from frosted feet he made this chair and gave it to a child in the Kaylor family, living near the Lincoln family. It remained in the Kaylor family in Decatur until Sadie Kaylor married my father. The chair was then taken to my father's home. After his death last year, and I sold the home, I brought the chair to Indianapolis while trying to locate a permant home for it.

There were never any affidavits or documents. I do not know who along the line should have made an affidavit. All persons with any connection are now gone except the two of us.

I took this picture several years ago. The seat is somewhat broken but I have been told that repairing it would spoil its value as an antique.

Respectfully,

Mildred Geiger

Mrs. W. M. Geiger
5421 Winthrop Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana
46220

Geiger

June 7, 1967

Mrs. W. M. Geiger
5421 Winthrop Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46220

Dear Mrs. Geiger:

I was pleased to have your letter of June 5th with the information concerning the old chair. I also appreciate the photograph. This information will go into our files.

Perhaps I should have told you that our facilities are so limited that we cannot display historic furniture and we are not to be considered as a final despository for this relic.

I would recommend that you place the chair in the Lincoln Boyhood National Park at Lincoln City, Indiana or in the Museum at Rockport, Indiana at the Lincoln Village.

Many thanks for bringing this interesting relic to my attention.

Yours sincerely,

R. Gerald McMurtry

RGM/cmvr